

**THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in ~~claim 1~~claim 7, further comprising:

a control valve and a non-return valve being connected between ~~the~~a hydraulic fluid source and ~~the~~a hydraulic cylinder paired with said hydraulic piston.

3. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein the control valve is actuatable by switching between two pressure levels in a hydraulic circuit connected to the hydraulic fluid source.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in ~~claim 1~~claim 2, the hydraulic piston is fitted in a double-acting piston cylinder.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 4, further comprising:

the control valve in one control position connects the hydraulic fluid source to one side of the hydraulic piston via the non-return valve, and another side of the hydraulic piston is connected to a drainage port for hydraulic fluid, and

the non-return valve configured to shut off flow towards the hydraulic fluid source.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) Apparatus for controlling the operation of a valve of a combustion chamber of an internal combustion engine, comprising:

a pivotable rocker arm coupled to said valve, said rocker arm including

a first cam follower interacting with a lobe of a rotating cam at a first rotational position of said cam to cause said rocker arm to pivot and thereby open said valve;

a second cam follower selectively interacting with said lobe of said rotating cam at a second rotational position of said cam to cause said rocker arm to pivot and thereby open said valve, said second cam follower being adjustably mounted to said rocker arm and movable between two operational positions by selective action of a hydraulic piston, wherein said second cam follower interacts with said lobe at a first operational position thereof with respect to said rocker arm, and has no interaction with said lobe at a second operational position thereof with respect to said rocker arm.